

July 16, 1985

TO: Memo to File

FROM: Dave Cline, Reclamation Hydrologist *OSC*

RE: Site Tour of Atlas Minerals Louise, Standard #2,
Dunn, Rim, and Columbus Mines, ACT/037/013,
ACT/037/011, ACT/037/017 and ACT/037/006, San
Juan County, Utah

On June 25, 1985, Sue Linner, Randy Harden, Rick Summers and Dave Cline toured five inactive uranium mines. Atlas representatives included Richard Blubaugh, Tom Wilson and Wayne Jensen. We met at the Atlas Minerals office in Moab and from there proceeded to the Lisbon Valley and the Louise Mine. Several old buildings were still on site and there was some trash scattered around the site. Overall the mine site was in good condition and there was no evidence of any waste rock or low grade ore moving off site.

The Standard #2 Mine site was visited next. This site was also in good condition overall. The pile of low grade ore appeared to be stabilized with the exception of erosion problems in a couple of areas. Evidence of some rill erosion is occurring on the northeast flank of the pile. Gullying is occurring on the southwest flank. However, a natural catch basin exists below the pile on the southwest side and the material is not moving off site. A small breach in the berm along the road at the base of the pile has occurred. The potential for material eroding off the pile and through the breach exists. In addition, gullying has occurred on the road leading from the low grade ore pile to the upper portal area. Discussions of patching the berm, regrading the road and patching the gully on the southwest flank with straw and compacted material took place.

The Dunn Mine site was reviewed next. Conditions at the site were in good condition. A small breach in the berm surrounding the development waste and small pile of low grade ore was observed. Discussion of patching the berm and installing a riser pipe occurred. The culvert draining the road entering into the mine site was directed to flow into the bermed area around the development waste. Redirecting the flow out of the culvert so it would not enter the contained area was discussed.

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The next site visit was to the Rim Mine. Evidence of erosion off the low grade ore pile was observed. The flanks of the pile, however, were very hard and appeared to be stable. The material eroding off the pile was not moving more than about 100 feet from the pile. The mine water discharge pond was visually inspected. Evidence of treatment with BaCl_2 was noted due to the blue color of the water. The pond berms appeared to be sound and the pond in excellent shape. Discharge from the pond was estimated to be approximately 1 gpm.

The Columbus Mine was visited after leaving the Rim Mine. The Columbus Mine site was used by Atlas only as ventilation and escape for the Rim Mine. The development waste at this site was extensive and located in an ephemeral drainage. Several piles of low grade ore were also located in and adjacent to the drainage. Outwash from the low grade ore was evidenced to be moving down the drainage. Discussions took place concerning Atlas' responsibility for reclaiming the development waste and low grade ore. Records of the Rim-Columbus Mine that were brought along by DOGM were consulted but the issue of responsibility was not resolved in the field.

We tried to locate the Spider-Locust Mine site but ended up at the Frisco Mine (Energy Fuels). The mine site was not reclaimed or even cleaned up. The decline was still open and alot of trash was still on site. The waste rock pile and low grade ore pile did appear to be stable and a berm was present at the base of the pile.

We were unable to visit the Spider-Locust Mine due to inaccessibility caused by a sandy drainage. The Windfall Mine was also not visited because the access road could not be located.

It was agreed that DOGM would draft a letter to Atlas Minerals outlining what the minor problems associated with each mine were.

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